

Appl. No. 10/006,316
Amdt. dated January 26, 2004
Reply to Office action dated December 12, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the system comprises:

at least one of a camera, an optical communication system, an imaging system, a test system, and a measurement system.

Claim 3-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (previously presented) A system comprising:

one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces treated to substantially absorb light;
one or more aperture-egress-side surfaces; and

substantially all of said one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces positioned such that light originating external to at least one of the one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces is either allowed to enter an aperture ingress or is substantially reflected in a direction such that re-reflection through the aperture ingress is substantially minimized, wherein said one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces comprise one or more curved surfaces.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The system of claim 6, wherein said one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces positioned such that light originating external to at least one of the one or more ~~side-ingress-side surfaces positioned such that light originating external to at least one of the one or more~~ aperture-ingress-side surfaces is either

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allowed to enter an aperture ingress or is substantially reflected in a direction such that re-reflection through the aperture ingress is substantially minimized comprises:

at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged.

Claim 8 (original) The system of claim 7, wherein said at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged comprises:

the at least one flat surface placed at an acute angle relative to a plane defined by an ingress of the aperture.

Claim 9 (previously presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the at least one flat surface angled such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged comprises:

the at least one flat surface placed at an angle whereby the light rays obeying the law of reflection are directed along a path such that, absent re-reflection, the light rays will not cross a plane defined by an ingress of the aperture.

Claim 10-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (previously presented) The system of claim 6 further comprising: an enclosure treated to substantially absorb light, said enclosure housing the system.

Claim 13 (previously presented) A system comprising:

a low-backscatter aperture structure, wherein said low-backscatter aperture structure has at least one surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged, said low-backscatter aperture structure including at least one flat surface treated to substantially absorb light.

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Claim 14 (previously presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the system comprises:

at least one of a camera, an optical communications system, an impinging system, a test system, and a measurement system.

Claim 15 (original) The system of claim 13, wherein said low-backscatter aperture structure comprises:

at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged.

Claim 16 (original) The system of claim 15, wherein said at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged comprises:

at least two flat surfaces forming a V shape.

Claim 17 (original) The system of claim 15, wherein said at least one flat surface oriented such that light rays impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged comprises:

the at least one flat surface forming a truncated cone shape.

Claim 18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (original) The system of claim 15, wherein said at least one flat surface oriented such that light tray impinging thereon are substantially reflected in a direction other than a direction from which said light rays impinged comprises:

said at least one flat surface treated to substantially reflect light.

Claim 20 (original) The system of claim 13, further comprising:

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an enclosure treated to substantially absorb light.

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (previously presented) A system having an optical train, said optical train comprising:

- a light source orientable to illuminate an aperture;

- one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces;

- one or more aperture-egress-side surfaces;

- said one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces positioned such that light originating external to at least one of the one or more aperture-ingress-side surfaces is either allowed to enter an aperture ingress or is substantially reflected in a direction such that re-reflection through the aperture ingress is substantially minimized;

- a detector orientable to capture light from the aperture; and

- an enclosure enclosing at least one of the light source, aperture-ingress-side surface, aperture-egress-side surface, and detector, said enclosure treated to substantially absorb light.